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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/812,168	03/19/2001	Robert T. Kulakowski	ATS016USV	1085

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2624	12

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/812,168	KULAKOWSKI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Douglas Q. Tran	2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over West et al. (US Patent No. 5,845,259) in view of Bullock et al. (US Patent No. 5,070,404) and Hortensius et al. (US Patent No. 5,917,629).

As to claim 1, West teaches a system for passively delivering printed packets of information or messages to intended recipients of the packets on a network of printer appliances without the need for interaction by a user of the printer appliances, the system including:

means (48 in fig. 2) for storing the packets (i.e., coupons) to be delivered (col. 5, lines 35-38);

a wireless transmission means (i.e., a wireless data link 22 or 19 in fig. 2) for transmitting all of the packets to the entire network without any interaction by users of the printer appliances (col. 5, lines 54-58 and 61-67 and 14-17, note this wireless transmission means have the same function with a pager system for transmitting the data wirelessly)

- at least one printer appliance (38 in fig. 2) on the network of printer appliances (col. 3, lines 45-46), the at least one appliance including:

- receiving means for receiving the packets without any interaction by users of the printer appliances (14 in fig. 2: for receiving the packets);

- processing means (36 in fig. 2) for selectively processing only those packets intended for the appliance without any interaction by users of the printer appliances (col. 3, lines 45-46);

- printing means (38 in fig. 2) for printing the intended packet (38 in fig. 2).

However, West does not teach all of the packets are transmitted by a wireless transmission means and received by receiving means from printer appliance.

Bullock teaches all of the packets are transmitted by a wireless transmission means (34 and 36 in fig. 4) and received by receiving means (42 in fig. 4) from printer appliance (col. 2, lines 39-48); and the intended packet is passively printing without any action by a user (note: the user having the choice whether selecting the packet for printing the packet, col. 2, lines 49-50).

It would have been obvious to have modified the printing system of West to provide the steps of all of the packets are transmitted by a wireless transmission means and received by receiving means from printer appliance and the intended packet is passively printing without any action by a user as taught by Bullock. The suggestion for modifying the printing system of West can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Bullock because the modified systems would employ an existing transmission medium for the delivery of all coupons and allows the user who wishes to obtain a particular coupon from all of the coupons from the printer without any action by a user.

However, neither West nor Bullock teaches means for compiling the packets to be delivered.

Hortensius teach means (28 in fig. 1) for compiling the packets to be delivered (col. 5, lines 44-46).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified the printing system of West and Bullock in order to have means 28 for compiling the packets to be delivered as taught by Hortensius. The suggestion for modifying the printing system of West and Bullock can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Hortensius because the modified system would increase efficiency for controlling the transmission to a plurality of output devices by compiling the packets before transmitting.

As to claim 2, Hortensius et al. teach:

- a subscriber directory for storing subscriber information concerning the intended recipients (40d in fig. 2) of the packets (40 in fig. 2).

As to claim 3, Hortensius et al. teach:

- a database manager (28 in fig. 1) for processing the packets (40 in fig. 2 from the bank and subscriber information (40 d in fig. 2) from the subscriber directory and identifying those recipients (node 18 in fig. 1) eligible for receiving the packets.

As to claim 4, Hortensius et al. teaches a transmission sequence compiler (28 in fig. 1) for placing the packets (40 in fig. 2) to be delivered into a predetermined order of transmission to the printer appliances (node 18 in fig. 1).

As to claim 5, Hortensius teaches the system further includes at least one modem (i.e., the transmitted IR radiation, col. 3, lines 37-41) for conveying the packets from the transmission sequences compiler to the wireless network (26 in fig. 1).

As to claim 6, Bullock teaches each of the printer appliances is adapted to receive all of the packets and process only those packets intended to be processed by the appliances (col. 50, lines 9-16).

As to claim 7, Bullock teaches each of the printer appliances is adapted to provided copies of the packets using a thermal printer (58 in fig. 4).

As to claim 8, Bullock teaches each of the printer appliances is adapted to transfer to an electronic smart card for subsequent use by the recipient (col. 50, lines 09-16).

As to claim 9, Bullock teaches the packets are redeemable coupons (col. 2, lines 37-38).

As to claim 10, Bullock teaches the packets are selected from the group consisting of redeemable coupons, messages, appointment reminders, event tickets, warnings, alerts, and advertisements (col. 2, lines 37-38).

As to claim 11, West teaches a bank (48 in fig. 2) for receiving and storing the packets (i.e., coupons) to be delivered (col. 5, lines 35-38);

- a database manager (21 in fig. 2) for processing the packets form the bank (col. 35-37);

- a pager network (i.e., a wireless data link 22 or 19 in fig. 2) for transmitting data to the recipients (col. 3, line 45-47, note this wireless data link have the same function with a pager system for transmitting the data wirelessly);

- at least one printer appliance (38 in fig. 2) on the network of printer appliances (col. 3, lines 45-46), the at least one appliance including:

- receiving means (14 in fig. 2) for receiving the packets;

- processing means (36 in fig. 2) for selectively processing only those packets intended for the appliance (col. 3, lines 45-46);

- printing means (38 in fig. 2) for printing the intended packet

However, West does not teach 1) a transmission sequence compiler for placing the packets to be delivered into a predetermined order of transmission to the printer appliances; and 2) all of the packets are transmitted by a wireless transmission means and received by receiving means from printer appliance.

Bullock teaches a transmission sequence compiler (32 in fig. 1) for placing the packets (40 in fig. 2) to be delivered into a predetermined order of transmission to the printer appliances (40 in fig. 4); all of the packets are received by receiving means (42 in fig. 4) from printer appliance (col. 2, lines 39-48); the intended packet is passively printing without any action by a user (note: the user having the choice for printing the packet, col. 2, lines 49-50).

It would have been obvious to have modified the printing system of West to provide a modem for placing the coupons to be delivered into a predetermined order to the user; the step of all of the packets are received by receiving means from printer appliance and the intended packet is passively printing without any action by a user as taught by Bullock. The suggestion for modifying the printing system of West can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Bullock because the modified systems would employ an existing transmission medium for the delivery of all coupons and allows the user who wishes to obtain a particular coupon from all of the coupons from the printer without any action by a user.

However, neither West nor Bullock teach 1)a subscriber directory for storing the names and information of intended recipients; and 2) a database manager for processing information and identifying those recipients.

Hortensius teaches a subscriber directory for storing the names and information of intended recipients (40d in fig. 2) of the packets (40 in fig. 2); a database manager (28 in fig. 1) for processing subscriber information (40 d in fig. 2) from the subscriber directory and identifying those recipients (node 18 in fig. 1) eligible for receiving the packets.

It would have been obvious to have modified the printing system of West and Bullock to provide a database manager 28; and a subscriber directory 40d as taught by Hortensius. The suggestion for modifying the printing system of West and Bullock can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Hortensius because Hortensius teaches the system provides an ability to incorporated node or nodes coupled to the wireless network in a transparent manner requiring the transceiver to incorporate an intelligent controller to manage the delivered packets.

As to claim 12, Hortensius teaches the system further includes a transmission sequence compiler (28 in fig. 1) for placing the packets (40 in fig. 2) to be delivered into a predetermined order of transmission to the printer appliances (node 18 in fig. 1).

As to claim 13, Hortensius teaches the system further includes a modem bank (i.e., the transmitted IR radiation, col. 3, lines 37-41) including at least one modem for conveying the packets from the transmission sequences compiler to the pager network (26 in fig. 1).

As to claim 14, Hortensius teaches the packets are selected from the group consisting of redeemable coupons, messages, appointment reminders, event tickets, warnings, alerts, and advertisements (40e in fig. 2).

As to claim 15, Hortensius teaches each of the printer appliances has a unique appliance code number (40d in fig. 2).

As to claim 16, Hortensius teaches the database manager is adapted to identify the intended recipients of the packets prior to transmission by identifying the appliance code number (40d in fig. 2) of the characteristics of its owner.

3. Claims 17-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Hortensius and Bullock.

As to claim 17, Hortensius teaches:

- transmitting one or more of the packets (40 in fig. 2) over the pager network (26 in fig. 1) to all of the appliances on the network (18 in fig. 1), each of the packets including a destination identifier (40d in fig. 2) to identify only those printer appliances intended to process and print a particular packet.

However, Hortensius does not explicitly teach receiving all of the packets at the appliance and the appliance being adapted to decode the destination identifier, selectively process and print only those packets intended for the appliance.

Bullock teaches receiving all of the packets at each of the appliances, the appliance (40 in fig. 4) being adapted to decode the destination identifier (48 in fig. 4) and selectively process and print only those packets intended to be processed and printed by the appliance (col. 2, lines 49-50); the intended packet is passively printing without any action by a user (note: the user having the choice for printing the packet, col. 2, lines 49-50).

It would have been obvious to have modified the printing system of Hortensius to provide the steps of decoding the destination identifier and selectively process and print only those packets by the appliance and the intended packet is passively printing without any action by a

user as taught by Bullock. The suggestion for modifying the printing system of Hortensius can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Bullock because the modified systems would employ an existing transmission medium for the delivery of all coupons and allows the user who wishes to obtain a particular coupon from all of the coupons from the printer without any action by a user.

As to claim 18, Bullock teaches the packets are redeemable coupons (col. 2, lines 37-38).

As to claim 19, Bullock teaches the packets are selected from the group consisting of redeemable coupons, messages, appointment reminders, event tickets, warnings, alerts, and advertisements (col. 2, lines 37-38).

As to claim 20, Hortensius teaches:

- developing a subscriber directory of all subscribers including the appliance identification number of their printer appliance (40d in fig. 2);

- creating a packet (40 in fig. 2) to be dispatched to at least one of the recipients (18 in fig. 1);

- identifying the potential recipients for the packet (40 in fig. 2);

- transmitting the packet through a pager network (26 in fig. 1) to all of the appliances (18 in fig. 1);

- receiving the packet (40 in fig. 2) at all of the appliances (18 in fig. 1);

- selectively processing and printing only those packets whose identification numbers match the appliance identification number (40e in fig. 2).

However, Hortensius et al. do not explicitly teach the steps of : 1) coding the packet with the appliance identification number of the intended recipients; and 2) selectively process and print only those packets intended to be processed and printed by the appliance.

Bullock teach coding the packet with the appliance identification number of the intended recipients (22 in fig. 2); and selectively process and print only those packets intended to be processed and printed by the appliance (col. 2, lines 49-50) and the intended packet is passively printing without any action by a user (note: the user having the choice for printing the packet, col. 2, lines 49-50).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified the printing system of Hortensius to provide the steps of coding the packet with identification number of the intended recipients from a computer; and selectively process and print only those packets by the appliance of a printer and the intended packet is passively printing without any action by a user as taught by Bullock. The suggestion for modifying the printing system of Hortensius can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Bullock because the modified systems would employ an existing transmission medium for the delivery of all coupons and allows the user who wishes to obtain a particular coupon from all of the coupons from the printer without any action by a user.

As to claim 21, Bullock teaches the packets are redeemable coupons (col. 2, lines 37-38).

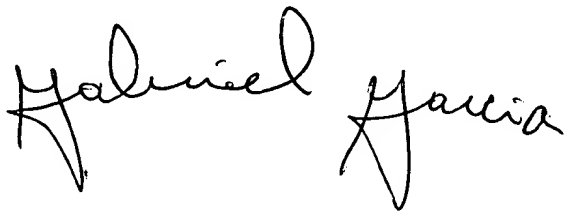
As to claim 22, Bullock teaches the packets are selected from the group consisting of redeemable coupons, messages, appointment reminders, event tickets, warnings, alerts, and advertisements (col. 2, lines 37-38).

Contact Information

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or e-mail address is Douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran
Dec. 10, 2003



GABRIEL GARCIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER